Application No. 10/560,202 Amendment Dated April 11, 2008 Reply to Office Action of February 12, 2008

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A rope terminator characterised by comprising, an elongate hollow barrel (12) formed from a fibre fiber reinforced synthetic resin material, the barrel (12) having therein a rope receiving passage (13), and said passage having a first end region from which the rope (18) to be terminated extends in use, and an opposite, second end region, the passage tapering in internal diameter from a minimum at said first end region to a maximum at said second end region, a tapering wedge member (14) for insertion into said passage of the barrel to trap fibres (19) fibers of the rope (18) between the outer tapering surface of the wedge member and the inner tapering surface of said passage, the wall of said passage and the surface of the said wedge member being such that the frictional drag of the rope fibers on the wall of said passage is less than the frictional drag of the fibres fibers on the surface of the wedge member when the wedge member traps fibres fibers against the wall of the passage, said barrel (12) having an outer surface region overlying a wider end region of said passage, said outer surface region of said barrel tapering in diameter in the same direction as the direction of taper of said region of said passage which it overlies, and, the terminator further including a hollow outer body member (11) having therein a tapering passage within which said outer tapering surface region of said barrel (12) is received, whereby said outer body member encases said outer surface region of said barrel and supports that region of the barrel against bursting loads imposed thereon by the action of said wedge member trapping rope fibres fibers against the wall of said wider end region of said passage, and provides a means of attaching the terminated rope to an anchor point or the like in use.

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- 2. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein said outer body member is formed from steel or similar high tensile strength machineable material.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein said outer body member is formed from titanium.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein said outer body member is arranged releasable to releasably receive any one of a plurality of alternative anchorage components.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein the fibre fiber reinforcement of the material of the barrel is provided by one or more p-phenylylene 2'6 benzobisoxazole (PBO) fibres fibers wound about the axis of the barrel.
- 6. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein the fibre fiber reinforcement of the material of the barrel is provided by one or more Aramid fibres would fibers would about the axis of the barrel.
- 7. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein the taper angle of the wedge member is(14) caries along the length of the wedge member such that throughout the length of the wedge member the area of the annulus defined between the outer surface of the wedge member (14) and the inner surface of the passage (13) within which rope fibres fibers are trapped in use is constant.

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- 8. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein the end region of the barrel-(12) through which the rope-(18) enters the barrel in use is lined by a sleeve member-(24) which spaces the rope from the end of the barrel.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein a separately formed cover-(23) overlies the length of said barrel-(12) which protrudes from said body-(11).
- 10. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 eharacterised by incorporating mechanical overload indicator means.
- 11. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 10 characterised in that wherein said overload indicator means is the extrusion of the barrel-(12) from the body-911) when the loading applied in use to an assembly of terminator and rope exceeds a predetermined value.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein at last two axially discrete surface regions of the exterior of said wedge member-(14) have different coefficient of friction.
- 13. (Currently Amended) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 characterised in that wherein the material of the fibre fiber reinforcement of the barrel-(12) is the same as or similar to the fibre fiber material of the rope with which the terminator is to be used.
- 14. (Previously Presented) A terminator as claimed in claim 1 wherein the barrel is adhesively bonded to the inner surface of the body.